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KENDALL COUNTY MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO PERPETRATING ANTHRAX HOAX

(SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS) A Fair Oaks, Texas man faces up to five years in federal prison and a maximum \$250,000 fine after pleading guilty to perpetrating an anthrax hoax.

Appearing before United States Magistrate Judge Pamela Mathy yesterday afternoon, 51-year-old **WILLIAM ONEAL HOLDEN** pleaded guilty to one count of mailing a threatening communication in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 876.

Holden admitted to entering a Mail Boxes, Etc. store located in Bexar County, Texas, on October 31, 2001, and mailed a package to an individual residing in Austin, Texas. White particles were on the package as well as the words, "Watch the white powder." During an interview with a postal inspector, Holden admitted to mailing the package which contained white powder to a person he had been feuding with and did so as a joke.

Holden remains out on a \$50,000 unsecured bond. Sentencing is scheduled for 9:00am on April 4, 2002, before United States District Judge Orlando Garcia.

This case is being investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service. Assistant United States Attorney Bill Baumann is prosecuting this case on behalf of the government.

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